



IOWA ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES NEWSLETTER

"To support and strengthen Iowa's municipal utilities"

ENERGY, WATER AND THE UNEXPECTED IN LEGISLATURE

The 2008 Legislative Session ended in the early hours of the morning on April 26 after a marathon week of caucus and debate. As expected, it was a busy year working on energy, open meetings/records, smoking and water related issues. An unexpected issue, the expansion of collective bargaining for public employees, posed particular problems for municipal utilities this session.

Energy was the main issue for municipal gas and electric utilities this year. As the session began, utilities were confronted with bills from the Governor's Office, the Energy Efficiency Interim Committee and from legislators seeking to impose renewable energy and energy efficiency mandates on municipal utilities. The potential siting of two new baseload coal plants created much discussion on greenhouse gas emissions. After many subcommittee meetings and much debate, four energy bills made it all the way through the process this year – with all of the mandates and most of the controversial provisions stricken.

Senate File 2386 will have the greatest impact on municipal utilities. An "agreed to" amendment was added at the end of session that requires municipal electric and gas utilities to assess energy efficiency potential to determine the maximum potential energy and capacity savings available from actual and projected customer usage through cost-effective energy efficiency measures and programs. The bill allows a utility to consider the utility service area's historic energy load, projected demand, customer base, and other relevant factors. Based on the assessment, each utility must establish an energy efficiency goal and a set of cost-effective energy efficiency programs designed to meet the energy efficiency goal. Separate goals may be established for various customer groupings. The process for determining the cost-effective

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IAMU TO HELP MEMBERS WITH EFFICIENCY REPORTING

This past legislative session, Iowa lawmakers passed Senate File 2386, which requires all electric and gas municipal utilities to conduct an assessment of potential. The purpose of the assessment is to identify the maximum potential energy and capacity savings that the municipal utility sector can realize through cost-effective energy efficiency programs. Based on the assessment, each utility must then create a cost-effective energy efficiency goal and outline their energy efficiency programs and measures used to meet that goal.

S.F. 2386 outlined a timetable for each municipal utility to complete the assessment:

- ✓ July 1, 2008: Municipals must have started conducting an assessment of potential.
- ✓ January 1, 2009: Municipals must submit a progress report to the Iowa Utilities Board.
- ✓ January 1, 2010: Assessment of potential and final report due to the Iowa Utilities Board. Final report must contain energy savings goals and measures that utilities will use to meet the goals.

IAMU will ensure members meet this requirement by conducting and submitting an assessment of potential on behalf of all member gas and electric utilities. IAMU will also assist members with creating goals. As required by S.F. 2386, informa-

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**LEGISLATURE
2008**

IUB DENIES FIVE MUNI PETITIONS!

On Tuesday, May 13, the Iowa Utilities Board announced its decision to preempt the will of the electorate in five Iowa communities.

The case involved the consolidated petitions of Everly, Kalona, Rolfe, Terril and Wellman to establish municipal electric utilities. All five communities are currently provided service by Interstate Power and Light (IPL), a division of Wisconsin-based Alliant Energy.

The Board's responsibility in the proceeding was to set the value of the IPL distribution assets, determine whether the

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Iowa Association
of Municipal Utilities

**This is the final edition of the
monthly IAMU Newsletter**

Coming soon:



> **An all-new weekly
emailed newsletter**

> **An all-new
quarterly magazine**

To have the weekly newsletter sent directly to your computer, email Sandy Longfellow: slongfellow@iamu.org



IAMU ELECTRIC MEMBERS PICK UP HONORS FROM APPA

Five Iowa electric utilities, all of which are IAMU members, have received the American Public Power Association's (APPA) "RP3" designation.

It recognizes utilities that provide their customers with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric services and demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, training and system improvement. Criteria within each category are based on sound business practices and represent a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity.

The winners from Iowa included:

Platinum Level:

- Cedar Falls Utilities
- Indianola Municipal Utilities
- Muscatine Power & Water
- Waverly Light & Power

Gold Level:

- Ames Municipal Electric System

This is the third year the RP3 designation has been offered. Terry Huval, Director of Lafayette (La.) Utilities System, and chair of the APPA board of directors, presented the awards during APPA's Engineering & Operations Technical Conference in Indianapolis.

The Iowa systems were among 84 utilities nationwide which received the RP3 honor. IAMU congratulates its member utility award winners!

Three municipal electric utilities in Iowa (all IAMU members), have earned the American Public Power Association's (APPA) **Electric Utility Safety Award** for safe operating practices in 2007. A total of 88 utilities nationwide were awarded, out of more than 200 which applied.

Entrants were placed in eight categories according to their number of worker hours and judged for the most incident-free records during 2007. The incidence rate, used to judge contest entries, is based on the number of work-related reportable injuries or illnesses and the number of worker-hours during 2007, as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

The winners from Iowa included:

Group A – Utilities with less than 15,000 worker-hours of exposure

First Place group:

- Pocahontas Municipal Electric Utility
- Sioux Center Municipal Electric Utility

Group C – for systems with 30,000 to 59,999 worker-hours of exposure

First Place group:

- Sumner Municipal Light Plant

Terry Huval, Director of Lafayette (La.) Utilities System, and chair of the APPA board of directors, presented the awards during APPA's Engineering & Operations Technical Conference in Indianapolis. IAMU congratulates its member utility award winners!



Mike Litterer, Assistant General Manager of Waverly Light & Power (center) receives the RP3 award from the American Public Power Association's RP3 Chair Paul Allen (left) and board president Terry Huval (right).

STRONG START FOR IAMU'S ECO@HOME MAGAZINE



IAMU has had a great response to its new energy efficiency magazine, *Eco@Home*.

Thirty-six association members subscribed to the first issue that has been mailed to about 30,000 municipal utility customers. Eight utilities have joined the program since the last issue was sent. Other utilities have approval of the subscription on governing body schedules and many others, both in-state and out-of-state, have expressed a strong interest.

A sample of the second edition and a list of topics for the third may be viewed on the IAMU website, www.iamu.org. Contact Sandy Longfellow at IAMU, 800/810-4268 or slongfellow@iamu.org for more information.



Eco@Home is an all-new consumer education publication from IAMU that is now available for your customers.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY DOMINATES ENERGY POLICY NEWS

IAMU Executive Director Bob Haug has been appointed as one of two Iowa representatives on the Midwestern Governors' Conference Energy Efficiency Advisory Group. The first meeting of the group was held April 23-24 in Minneapolis. The group is looking at a variety of programs and policies that can move the region toward the governors' goal of a 2 percent reduction in energy consumption by 2015.

The May 7 edition of the American Public Power Association's *Public Power Daily* carried related news about a draft report by the Electric Power Research Institute and the Edison Electric Institute. The report indicates that energy efficiency improvements in the U.S. electric power sector could reduce electric consumption by 7% to 11% more than currently projected over the next two decades. The report stated, "Essential steps

include increased consumer education; adoption and enforcement of aggressive building codes and appliance standards; creation of utility business models that promote increased efficiency within the power sector; and adoption of electricity pricing policies that more accurately reflect the cost of providing electricity to consumers – and give them the information they need to use it wisely, the report found."

"While electricity rates will rise due to increasing across-the-board costs of producing electricity, energy efficiency improvements can help reduce some of these costs to consumers," said Diane Munns, a former Iowa Utility Board Chair who now directs EEI's energy efficiency programs. "To maximize utility investment in efficiency programs, energy efficiency must be treated as an energy resource on par with new generation."

IAMU TO HOST WIND TURBINE

Plans for installing a 1 kW vertical axis wind turbine at IAMU were firmed up at a recent meeting with representatives of Korean-based KR Wind Power.

The turbine is expected to be in operation by the end of July.

KR Wind Power has a new design for both distributed turbines in the 1 to 100 kW range. Utility-scale units are currently undergoing evaluation for certification by a leading German certification agency.

ENGINEER/EFFICIENCY SPECIALIST JOINS IAMU STAFF



Joel Logan

Joel Logan, a recent engineering graduate of Iowa State University, has accepted a position with IAMU and officially starts June 1, as Energy Services Engineer.

Joel is no stranger to the association. His master's degree thesis describes the

potential for making a superior performing building – the IAMU office building – even more efficient. Several IAMU staffers heard Joel present a fascinating overview of his report at the Iowa Energy Center facility in Ankeny. Joel identified several energy efficiency improvements, implementing and then evaluating the two measures with the biggest energy savings. Those were the installation of variable frequency drive technology to reduce energy required to pump water through our geothermal system and resetting of a thermostat on our air-to-air heat exchanger. Together, these measures will reduce our energy consumption about 18%.

In addition, he identified other energy hogs and energy vampires in our building that we have already been able to address. These include replacement of the soft drink machine and dishwasher with Energy Star appliances, replacement of most of our CRT computer monitors with more efficient flat-screen models, and a little more attention to use of power saving modes on computers and printers (a lot more can be done). A power timer has been installed on the coffee machine to deliver significant energy savings. IAMU also expects significant savings from two new Energy Star printers. These will replace some power hogs, and enable us to remove or turn off several peripheral printers and scanners that have run continuously.

The bottom line is that the IAMU office, which has used about 25 percent of the energy of the average office building per square foot, will now be using less than 20 percent of what an average building uses. Even before these changes, your association's office complex was among the 10 most efficient office buildings in the U.S. With them, we will remain a leader for some time to come.



SAFE CITY



RPGI CONTRIBUTES \$1,500 TO IAMU'S SAFE CITY PROJECT

The list of contributors to IAMU's Safe City continues to grow.

Resale Power Group of Iowa (RPGI) has donated \$1,500 to assist in developing the facility on IAMU's Safety & Training Field, and help IAMU establish world class training for utility workers. IAMU extends its thanks to RPGI for its generosity and continued support of IAMU.

Safe City is a cluster of miniature structures on the IAMU Safety & Training Field which will simulate real life utility construction activities, emergency response scenarios and more, featuring actual operating utility infrastructure.

Continued development of Safe City will be ongoing in 2008, and contributions of money, equipment and materials are welcome. Learn more about IAMU's Safe City facility on the

IAMU website, www.iamu.org (click on the Safe City tab on the home page). To contribute, contact Dave Hraha at IAMU, 800-810-4268 or dhraha@iamu.org.



Safe City's structures continue to take shape on IAMU's Safety & Training Field. Work on the six small buildings will continue this summer.

MANY TOPICS FOR SAFETY WORKSHOP JUNE 26 – 27

IAMU will offer a Safety Workshop June 26 – 27 at the association's Training & Office Complex in Ankeny. Geared for workers, administrators, managers, supervisors and safety coordinators, this two-day workshop will offer 0.3 CEUs.

Topics will include: Construction Safety Program (DNR, OSHA, EPA compliance); OWI/DWI Reasonable Suspicion, CDL, Drug/Alcohol Testing; Public Employee Personal Liabilities (panel); Work Zone/Reflective Clothing Safety; IAMU Safe City Update and Disaster Recovery Plan; Common Ground Iowa; OSHA Update; Confined Space; Ergonomics; Hand Tools, Electric Safety, PPE.

The cost of the workshop is \$180 per person for IAMU members; \$230 per person for non-members (includes, breaks, lunches and supporting materials). A \$10 per person additional fee will be charged for CEUs. A workshop brochure has been distributed, and is also available on the IAMU website (www.iamu.org). Register with the form in the brochure, or online with the IAMU website (click on "Calendar/Registrations" on the home page).

For more information contact IAMU at 800-810-4268.



PAUL KITTELSON JOINS IAMU AS SAFETY SPECIALIST

IAMU welcomes a new addition to its Job Training & Safety staff. Paul Kittelson has joined IAMU as a Safety Specialist, and will be among IAMU's team that traverses the state presenting safety and training classes to member cities and utilities. He will also soon be certified as a First Aid and CPR instructor.

Paul has been involved in various aspects of safety management for more than ten years. He is the treasurer of the American Society of Safety Engineers Hawkeye Chapter board of directors.

He lives in Indianola with his wife and two children, who both attend high school.



Paul Kittelson

IAMU'S HRAHA ELECTED TO SAFETY GROUP BOARD



IAMU Program Director Dave Hraha has been elected to the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Hawkeye Chapter board of directors as vice president.

He will serve with recently hired IAMU Safety Specialist Paul Kittelson, who is the board treasurer.

Please join us in congratulating Dave on his accomplishment.



CALENDAR OF IAMU WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS



All information subject to change.

Unless otherwise noted, all events held at IAMU Training & Office Complex: 1735 NE 70th Ave., Ankeny, IA

June 2008

- June 2 **Storm Water:** Rain Garden Workshop, F.W. Kent Park, Johnson County
- June 11 & 12 **Water/WW:** Water Operator Lab Workshops
- June 26 – 27 **Safety:** Safety Workshop



Register for IAMU workshops on the website: www.iamu.org (click on "Calendar/Registrations")



IAMU VEHICLE FLEET GROWS

New IAMU vehicles are now dotting the Iowa landscape. At left, **Rudy and Rod Parcel** of IAMU's Gas Training & Safety Department show off their brand new trucks crafted by IAMU associate member **ABM Equipment Co.** of Hopkins, MN. At center is a new Scion xD (with IAMU Safety Specialist **Mike Hamilton**) and a new Dodge Caliber that will be driven by IAMU Safety Specialist **Roger Griffith**.

3-year terms

Announcing 30-year terms on State Revolving Fund Construction Loans

This new, longer financing option, coupled with a low 3 percent interest rate, makes the State Revolving Fund the best option to finance your community's wastewater infrastructure projects.

Contact Lori Beary at lori.beary@iowa.gov or 515.725.4965.



FEATURING GE METERS IN THE STATE OF IOWA

For over 50 years DSG has partnered with GE Metering in other Midwest states. DSG is proud to now bring GE Metering Products and support to Iowa.



METERING TECHNOLOGY

For More Information Call:

Dan Sinclair
Territory Manager
515-250-1852
800-325-0514



PROGRAM EDUCATES CONSUMERS IN MEDICINE DISPOSAL

Wastewater utilities are urged to investigate the new SMART DISPOSAL™ program, and to use the information it offers to help educate your customers in an important health and water quality issue.



SMART DISPOSAL™
A Prescription for a Healthy Planet

With the slogan "A Prescription for a Healthy Planet," the SMART DISPOSAL™ campaign is designed to raise awareness among medication consumers about the potential environmental impact from improperly disposed of medications and to provide proactive guidance through proper disposal alternatives. Recent studies, using new technology capable of detecting low

concentrations of compounds, have shown that pharmaceutical wastes or their by-products are not always successfully removed by municipal wastewater treatment facilities.

SMART DISPOSAL™ is a cooperative effort sponsored by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the American Pharmacists Association and the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America. It includes campaign materials to help educate your customers, including a fact sheet, bookmark, magnet and poster in two sizes. These materials are print quality, and can be ordered/downloaded free of charge.

To learn more, go to the SMART DISPOSAL™ website at www.smarxtdisposal.net.

CCR FILING DEADLINE JULY 1

Water systems are reminded the deadline for submitting your Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is fast approaching. Community water systems must make their CCRs available to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and consumers by July 1, 2008.

The CCR summarizes your system's water source, educational information, contaminants detected, and compliance with regulations.

Although your utility certification letter isn't due until October 1, 2008, it is recommended that it be submitted to IDNR along with the copy of your CCR by July 1.

Current Transformers Wanted!



Does your electric utility have used CTs no longer in use?

Replacing substation equipment?

Please consider donating to IAMU for training purposes. All ratios and rating factors will be considered.

Contact Eric Stoll at IAMU: 800-810-4268 or estoll@iamu.org.



World class training could be found in IAMU's spring workshops, including: Gas Plastic Pipe Joining; Water Distribution & Leak Detection; and Overhead Electric Distribution (which included a beginning pole climbing class).





MARATHON REAPS BENEFITS OF FACILITY RENOVATION

The way to improved efficiency in your community may start with your own facilities. This has been the case for the city of Marathon (pop. 302), which has just completed a major renovation of the former community school building. The end result not only met the desires of the residents, but reduced operating costs and improved efficiency.

Besides housing the city offices, the local school building had been largely vacant since 1987. The main exception was the school gymnasium/stage, which continued to be a popular space for the community to use for gatherings and events. Although the gym remained usable, much of the facility worsened and eventually became uninsurable. Additionally, the facilities housing the library and part of the fire station were aging and had costly utility bills.

To remedy the situation, Marathon held a town meeting to determine the fate of the school. "Turnout was phenomenal", noted City Clerk Cindy Richardson. "We had over 200 people at the meeting who voiced their support to keep the gym."

In order to honor the wishes of its citizens, the City of Marathon preserved the gym but tore down most of the school. A new facility connected to the gym was built, and it houses city offices, the entire fire station, city maintenance shop, and the public library. The project involved extensive insulation upgrades, lighting retrofits, a new roof for the gym, and even smaller scale upgrades like

faucet aerators and handicap-accessible exits. By saving much of the furniture and cabinets from the old offices, Marathon was able to cut costs and reduce impacts for furnishing the new building.

The results have been terrific. City operations have improved; instead of officials paying utility bills for three aging and inefficient buildings, the city now has a single, more efficient facility. The portion of the facility that is heated by gas uses as the same amount of gas as in prior years, despite the fact that it's now heating a much larger area that includes both the city maintenance shop and fire station. Additionally, response times for the fire station have dropped, as equipment is now in one central location.

Richardson credits a combination of grants, volunteer efforts, and flexibility as keys to completing the project in four years. "We could not have done this without the volunteers," she said, noting their involvement in almost every aspect of the project, from demolition of the old school to painting newly finished walls.

There will be an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony for the Community Center June 13 1 p.m. Anyone interested is invited to attend. For more information call the City of Marathon at 712-289-2261.

Energy Efficiency
Did You Know?



Two photos from Marathon's school renovation are shown, with the unsalvageable portion of the building in the top photo, and new construction in the right of the bottom photo.

tion will be available separately for each utility. IAMU will also submit progress reports on or by July 1, 2008 and January 1, 2009 to ensure 100% compliance with this law.

In order to conduct the study, IAMU has issued a Request For Proposals (RFP) and selected Summit Blue Consulting, a demand-side management firm based in Chicago, which has worked with many Midwestern municipal and investor-owned utilities.

All joint action agencies, all municipal gas utilities, and all unaffiliated electric utilities were notified of this initiative and have a

chance to join the Assessment Working Group. This group will work actively and coordinate efforts with IAMU, the IAMU Energy Efficiency Committee, and Summit Blue Consulting throughout the duration of the study.

Unless a utility wishes to join the Assessment Working Group, its representatives can wait until IAMU or their joint action agency contacts them with data requests or other needs. If you are interested in joining the Assessment Working Group, or would like additional information, contact Anne Kimber (akimber@iamu.org) or Erin Peiffer (epeiffer@iamu.org) at IAMU, 800/810-4268.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY ASSESSMENTS

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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energy efficiency goal must be started by July 1, 2008. A progress report must be submitted to the IUB by January 1, 2009. A final report must be filed with the IUB by January 1, 2010 (*see related story, Page 1*). The report must include the utility's cost-effective energy efficiency goal, and for each measure utilized by the utility in meeting the goal, the measure's description, projected cost, and the analysis of its cost-effectiveness. On January 1 of each even-numbered year, commencing January 1, 2012, municipal utilities must file a report with the board identifying their progress in meeting the energy efficiency goal and any updates or amendments to their energy efficiency plans and goals. This requirement takes the place of the current energy efficiency plan filings. IAMU has completed an RFP process and has selected a consultant to conduct a joint assessment of energy efficiency potential.

Senate File 2386 also requires a renewable energy generation cost-effective potential study. The study requires the Iowa utility association, in consultation with the Iowa association of electric cooperatives and the Iowa association of municipal utilities, to conduct a technical study of the potential for achieving or engaging in renewable energy generation on a cost-effective basis by 2025. The study is to be transmitted to the office of energy independence by December 1, 2008, to be submitted with the energy independence plan which is required to be submitted to the governor and the general assembly by December 14, 2008.

Finally, the bill creates a new Commission on Energy Efficiency Standards and Practices within the Department of Public Safety. The Commission is to evaluate energy efficiency building standards and make recommendations for new energy efficiency requirements applicable to new construction, incentives for energy efficiency construction projects which exceed current building codes and a statewide energy efficiency building rating system. The Commission, which includes a municipal utility member, exists for two years, with recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2011.

Senate File 2422 was another of the energy bills to wind its way through the process, passing in the closing days of the session. The bill allows Power Fund applicant information to be kept confidential and requires that the Iowa Climate Change Advisory Council and the Office of Energy Independence consider the inclusion of nuclear energy when discussing greenhouse gas reductions and reviewing the range of energy sources for development of the Energy Independence Plan. The bill also increases the allowance for administrative expenses of the Office of Energy

Independence and allows use of moneys for technical assistance to conduct due-diligence activities and to address all technical, financial and management processes associated with the Power Fund applications and research, development, production and initial implementation of the energy independence plan.

Senate File 2405 allows a state bank to acquire an equity interest in a wind energy project and to be eligible for production tax credits without participating in the operation of the facility. It expands the use of renewable energy tax credits under chapter 476B, by allowing a tradable tax credit to be used to offset sales or use taxes and utility replacement taxes. It extends the period for placing a project into service to qualify for these credits to July, 2012 and allows credits to be transferred an unlimited number of times. It includes in the definition of a wind facility that it consists of one or more wind turbines connected to a common gathering line with a capacity of no less than two megawatts and requires the Iowa Utilities Board to establish a system for tracking green credits.

Senate File 517, the last of the energy-related bills to win approval this session, was signed by Governor Culver at Muscatine Power and Water. The bill makes changes to the DNR's energy bank program, lifts the cap on the salaries for the Director of the Iowa Energy Center, requires all cities to use the State Energy Code and allows the Commissioner of Public Safety to adopt rules for sustainable design and construction standards and apply them to buildings governed by the State Building Code. The bill also includes a confidentiality provision sought by municipal utilities. The bill amends the definition of "proprietary information" to include disclosure of customer records if the competitive position of the customer would be harmed, if required by a nondisclosure agreement relating to transmission, critical energy infrastructure, generation or any other information otherwise required to be confidential by rule or law.

Water Quality also emerged as a significant issue in the 2008 legislative session.

House File 2400, the "Surface Water Protection Act," became law on April 3, after two years of meetings and recommendations made by the Watershed Protection Task Force. The bill creates a Water Resources Coordinating Council, within the Governor's Office, to preserve and protect Iowa's water resources and to coordinate management of water resources among various federal and state agencies. The bill directs the Department of Natural Resources to create a regional watershed program to assess all watersheds in the state.

Continued on next page



Authority is given to the new Coordinating Council to prioritize watersheds and plan remedial efforts in local communities. The Council designates an agency to identify critical sub-watersheds within priority regional watersheds and recruit communities, citizens groups, local governments and other stakeholders to engage in the implementation of a local community-based sub-watershed improvement plan. The bill directs the Department of Natural Resources to assist communities throughout this process with monitoring and measurement of local watersheds. Finally, the Department is required to assess and prioritize communities within a watershed that present the greatest risk to water quality and the health of residents.

Although no moneys were appropriated for implementation of the new Surface Water Protection Act this session, expect funding to be an issue next session. However, \$3 million was appropriated to the Wastewater Treatment Financial Assistance Program and \$5 million was appropriated to the Watershed Improvement Review Board to be distributed for watershed improvement grants.

House File 2672, which authorizes the imposition of water use permit fees and caps the total amount of fees at \$500,000 annually, passed at the end of session. The bill creates the new water use permit fund and appropriates the fees directly to the Department of Natural Resources to be used for reviewing, issuing and ensuring compliance with permits and to implement and enforce provisions related to water allocation, use, diversion, storage and withdrawal, and completing investigations needed to issue new or modified permits or to resolve water interference complaints. The Environmental Protection Commission will set the fees and is required to annually review the amount of moneys generated.

House File 2392 was the annual battle between municipal utilities and landlords over liens placed on property for unpaid utility bills. A compromise was struck this year which maintains the requirement that a landlord notify the city when a new tenant moves in or out but changes the notification time period from 10 days to 30 days.

Open Meetings/Records legislation did not make it through session, despite a proposal from an interim committee to rewrite chapters 21 and 22 and to create a new enforcement board. Municipal utilities worked with other interests for support of amendments to improve the bill to eliminate some of the major concerns with its potential impact. While some of those amendments were accepted, most were rejected. Municipal utilities remained opposed to the legislation until the bitter end of session.

The axiom that a bill is never dead until session has adjourned for the year applies to the open meetings/

records legislation this session. It was part of an amendment to the last bill of the session, which would have created the Iowa Public Information Board. While some felt that the enforcement board was a good compromise to a broader bill, many thought it did not include enough controls to protect local officials from citizens who could misuse the board. In addition, the board creates an unwieldy process for a municipal utility that may be subject to an enforcement action. Expect this issue to be front and center during the 2009 legislative session.

House File 2212 imposes a statewide ban on smoking in public buildings or on the grounds of public buildings. The prohibition, which goes into effect on July 1, 2008, also bans smoking in bars and restaurants, businesses, public buildings and vehicles, outdoor areas such as the grounds of any public buildings, owned, leased, or operated by or under the control of the state or local government, and public transportation facilities and conveyances under the authority of state or local governments. The bill requires the posting of no smoking signs and authorizes penalties. The Department of Public Health is working on emergency rules to clarify these requirements.

House File 2645 started out as a noncontroversial bill to amend Iowa Code Chapter 20, but ended up being the most contentious bill of the 2008 legislative session. A surprise amendment was added in the House that significantly expanded the scope of collective bargaining by public employees. A lengthy and contentious debate ensued until the wee hours of the morning, with the Republicans voting against the bill and Democrats voting for the bill. When the bill went to the Senate, the Republicans holed up for over 26 hours in caucus threatening to spend Easter weekend in an effort to stall the bill's passage. An agreement was made to consider the bill with limited debate on the following Monday. The bill passed with all Republicans voting no. Municipal utilities were opposed to the bill and worked against its passage. At the time of this article, it is still uncertain whether Governor Culver will veto or sign the collective bargaining bill.

November Elections: Throughout the session, members of both parties announced their intentions not to seek reelection, including Republican Senators Dave Mulder, Mary Lundby, Jeff Angelo, Thurman Gaskill, Larry McKibben and Hubert Houser; and Democrat Senator Mike Connolly. On the house side, Democrats Representatives Pam Jochum, Dubuque; and Swati Dandekar, Cedar Rapids, are giving up their seats to run for the Senate and two other Democrats, Phil Wise and Ro Foege, are retiring. Republicans Libby Jacobs, Dan Clute, Bill Schickel, Sandy Greiner, Carmine Boal, Polly Granzow, Chuck Gipp, Walt Tomenga, and Clarence Hoffman, will not return.



LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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IUB RULING

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acquisition of those assets by the city was in the public interest, and, if so, to establish the service area boundaries for the new municipal utilities.

At an oral presentation of their findings, all three Board members presented their conclusions that municipalization was not in the public interest. The written decision is not yet available. IAMU and other public power organizations around the country will be looking closely at this astounding decision.



CLASSIFIEDS

PLEASE NOTE: This is the final issue of the monthly IAMU Newsletter. It will be replaced by two new publications which will not carry classified advertising.

All future classified advertising will be displayed only on the IAMU website. Please send all classified advertising copy to John Burnett at IAMU: jburnett@iamu.org.

At the discretion of IAMU, classified advertising from non-IAMU members can be placed on the IAMU website for a fee. Please call or email John Burnett at IAMU for more information.

— HELP WANTED —

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: The City of Center Point (pop. 2007). Salary DOQ + benefits. Mayor and five-member council, six full-time employees. Residential community located 15 miles north of Cedar Rapids on I-380 is hiring a qualified candidate to fill this new position. Bachelor's degree in public administration, business administration or a related field preferred. The ideal candidate will have strong financial and communication skills and a demonstrated ability to develop and execute work plans. Experience in budgeting, TIF, grants, loans and bonding is a plus. Applicants may request that their application be kept confidential and that their qualifications be reviewed and discussed in closed session. EEOE. Letter and resume to:

Mayor Paula Freeman-Brown
200 Franklin St.
Center Point, IA 52213
Ph: 319-849-1508

5/08

LINEPERSON/UTILITY WORKER: McGregor Municipal Utilities is accepting applications for this position, to be filled mid-August — September. Duties include electrical construction, operation, maintenance and repair of overhead and underground electric distribution system. Other duties include meter reading, working with the public, generation, and water utility operations. Other requirements include possession of valid CDL or ability to obtain within six months; successful completion of a formal technical program for utility line workers or equivalent experience, and graduation from high school. Starting wage \$14/hour. Must be willing to relocate within a 20 radius of McGregor city limits. Benefits include IPERS retirement plan, 100% paid single health insurance premium plan plus medical flex benefits, life ins, dependent life, paid holidays, vacation and sick leave. Pre-employment physical and drug testing required. EEO. Send resume to:

Kris Eulberg, Office Admin.
McGregor Municipal Utilities
P.O. Box 186
McGregor, IA 52157-0186

5/08

WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR: Ottumwa Water & Hydro has an opening for this full-time position. Offers competitive wage, insurance and vacation time. Successful applicant will possess (at a minimum) current state of Iowa Grade II Water Treatment certification. This is a night job, with a 12-hour shift. For more information call 641-684-4606, ext. 21. Send resume to:

Ottumwa Water & Hydro
230 Turner Dr.
P.O. Box 20
Ottumwa, IA 52501-2904

5/08

— HELP WANTED —

GENERAL MANAGER: Muscatine Power and Water (MP&W), located in Muscatine, IA has retained Little & Associates, Inc. to assist the Board of Trustees with the recruitment of a new General Manager to replace the current General Manager who will retire February 1, 2009. The General Manager reports to a five (5) member Board of Trustees and leads a staff of 300 employees through five (5) direct reports. MP&W is the largest municipal utility in Iowa and provides electric, water and telecommunications products and services to approximately 12,000 customer/owners. Muscatine, IA is an historic town of 23,000 located on the banks of the Mississippi River, within 45 minutes of the Quad Cities and Iowa City. Candidates will have a college degree in business, engineering, or related field, at least ten (10) years experience in the public sector utility business with excellent skills and experience managing and leading multiple services, comprehensive understanding of the functions, principles, practices, techniques and operations of municipal utility administration and principles and practices of effective industry leadership. Candidates must be able to establish and maintain excellent relations with the Board of Directors, staff and customers; participate in local, area, state and national organizations; and demonstrate successful leadership skills in establishing and achieving exceptional organizational performance, business and financial goals. MP&W is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and can offer competitive compensation and benefits. Qualified applicants should email a letter of qualifications and resume to Little & Associates, Inc. at dlittle@littlerecruiting.com.

MAINTENANCE: City of Carson is seeking a person to fill a full-time maintenance position. Must be willing to obtain water and sewer system certifications, willing to obtain a CDL. High school diploma or equivalent, water and sewer license is a plus; or, combination of education and experience. EOE, EOP. Ph. 712-484-3636. Applications accepted until position is filled. For application, contact:

Carson City Hall
316 S. Commercial St.
P.O. Box 128
Carson, IA 51525

5/08



Post your classified ad on the IAMU website (www.iamu.org)

Email your ad copy to John Burnett: jburnett@iamu.org

Questions? Call John at 515-289-1999



— HELP WANTED —

WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT: The City of Sumner is seeking a qualified applicant for this position. The qualified candidate should possess a State of Iowa Grade 3 Wastewater Certificate or be able to obtain one by October 1, 2008. The successful applicant will be in charge of operating a state of the art treatment plant that uses oxidation ditches (activated sludge) with aerobic digesters. This plant was placed in service March 2005. Typical daily flows average 200,000 gallons, with peak flows up to 1.5 million gallons per day. Preference will be given to applicants who have current experience in operating/working in an activated sludge plant, and who hold at least an Iowa Grade 2 Water and Distribution Certificate. Preference will also be given to candidates who agree to "cross-train" and function as a member of the Sumner Public Works Department. Team members respond to weather-related emergencies and assist in making repairs and expansion to municipal infrastructure. *Application deadline is June 13, 2008.* Send resume to:

Wastewater Superintendent Position
c/o Lisa Oberbroeckling, City Clerk
P O Box 236
Sumner, IA 50674 5/08

GENERAL MANAGER, MUNICIPAL WATER UTILITY: City of Marion, serviced by deep wells (average 2.4 MGD), with 13,000 accounts, Water Department staff of 14. General Manager, under general direction of the Board of Trustees: formulates and reviews rules and regulations and applicable standard specifications of department; oversees department supervisors; coordinates State and Federal requirements; manages and plans for financial, capital, natural and human resources. Requires Bachelor's Degree in: civil, environmental or construction engineering (PE certification preferred); or business administration; or public administration; or an equivalent level of advanced study and experience; plus a minimum 5 years experience in municipal or governmental setting. Iowa Grade III Water Treatment and Distribution license, or ability to acquire same. Salary DOQ, with excellent benefit package. Pre-employment physical, background check and drug/alcohol screen. EOE. *Position open until filled.* City application and detailed job description available from:

Water Administrator
Marion Water Department
1225 6th Avenue, Suite 150
Marion, IA 52302 4/08

— HELP WANTED —

MECHANICAL OR ELECTRICAL ENGINEER: Muscatine Power and Water (MP&W) has opening for this position (entry-level to experienced candidates will be considered). Engineering staff work in both generation and transmission/distribution. Part of team providing engineering/maintenance support to the generation department for three coal-fired generating units. Serves as project leader or discipline lead for capital projects including power, process control, and other engineering assignments; assist in preventive and predictive maintenance. Serves as representative for outside contractors. BS in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering required, power option preferred. Strong oral and written skills. Pay ranges for engineering positions such as these start at \$52,000 – \$78,000 for entry level candidates (DOE) to \$64,000 – \$95,000 for higher level candidates (DOE). Comprehensive benefit package. Pre-employment physical, drug screen, and background check. EOE M/F/D/V. Send resume and salary requirements to:

Muscatine Power and Water
Attention: Human Resources
3205 Cedar Street
Muscatine, Iowa 52761
www.mpw.org 4/08

— FOR SALE —

PICKUP TRUCK: City of Iowa Falls offers a 2001 Dodge Ram 1500 4X4 SLT; 5.2 V-8 engine, 4-speed automatic. AM-FM/cassette; power windows, mirrors, locks. Equipped with Tommy Gate tailgate. 34,650 miles. Color: white. Accepting sealed bids until June 30, 2008. For more information call 641-648-3714. 5/08

BASKET TRUCK: 1997 Altec model AA755L material handling non-over center with single double-wide basket. Unit is mounted on International model 4900 4X2 chassis with automatic transmission, DT 466E engine which has approximately 195,000 miles. This unit was serviced and tested on regular basis. This unit is being replaced as part of our normal 10 year schedule. More specifications and pictures are available upon request. Price for unit is \$35,000. Contact Ken at Prairie Energy Cooperative 800-728-0013 or knorem@prairieenergy.coop 4/08



CLASSIFIEDS

PLEASE NOTE: This is the final issue of the monthly IAMU Newsletter. It will be replaced by two new publications which will not carry classified advertising.

All future classified advertising will be displayed only on the IAMU website. Please send all classified advertising copy to John Burnett at IAMU: jburnett@iamu.org.

At the discretion of IAMU, classified advertising from non-IAMU members can be placed on the IAMU website for a fee. Please call or email John Burnett at IAMU for more information.

Current Transformers Wanted!



Does your electric utility have used CTs no longer in use?

Replacing substation equipment?

Please consider donating to IAMU for training purposes. All ratios and rating factors will be considered.

Contact Eric Stoll at IAMU: 800-810-4268 or estoll@iamu.org.



Help support IAMU's training programs when you buy safety equipment online from Omark Safety.

Omark, an IAMU associate member, will contribute three per cent of each online sale to support the association's safety programs. IAMU members simply enter the reference code "IAMU" during the checkout process of an online order. Purchases can be made through the company's web site at www.omarksafety.com or through the IAMU website: www.iamu.org under "Resources."

Questions? Call Omark Safety 800/383-7233

The IAMU Newsletter is published monthly to provide information to IAMU members on the safe, efficient and reliable operation of municipal electric, gas, water and telecommunication utilities. Contributions from members and others which advance this purpose are solicited and appreciated. Address changes should be sent to: IAMU, 1735 NE 70th Ave., Ankeny, IA 50021-9353.

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IAMU web site: www.iamu.org

This publication is designed to provide accurate and authoritative information in regard to the subject matter covered. It is furnished with the understanding that the Association is not engaged in rendering legal or other professional service. If legal advice or other professional or expert assistance is required, the services of a competent professional should be sought.

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eco@home



A "green" consumer education publication from IAMU for your customers.

See the IAMU website (www.iamu.org) or contact Sandy Longfellow at 800/810-4268 or slongfellow@iamu.org



Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities

This is the final edition of the monthly IAMU Newsletter

Coming soon:



> An all-new weekly emailed newsletter

> An all-new quarterly magazine

To have the weekly newsletter sent directly to your computer, email Sandy Longfellow: slongfellow@iamu.org

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